

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5440
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2002
BORDER AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Border Area Development Programme funds are utilized for welfare schemes in the border areas;
- (b) if so, the specific parameter of this scheme for development plan;
- (c) whether there is any proposal for participation of border area MPs in recommending the schemes for Border Area Development Programme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)to(e): The main objective of the Border Area Development Programme is to meet the special needs of the people living in remote inaccessible areas situated near the International Borders. Hence, the schemes under the Programme address problems such as inadequacies relating to provision of essential needs, strengthening of the social infrastructure, filling up of critical gaps in the road network such as small culverts, bridges, bridle paths and feeder roads, construction of housing for crucial functionaries such as doctors, nurses, security related schemes; etc.

The Programme is 100% Centrally funded Area Programme and is in operation in the border blocks of the seventeen States which have International Border, namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and West Bengal.

Special Central Assistance under the Programme is released to the State as a whole. As per the guidelines for the Programme, the State Level Screening Committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary decides the schemes to be taken up under the Programme. The guidelines stress the need to involve grassroot level institutions such as Panchayati Raj bodies particularly Gram Sabhas in the identification of schemes. The State Governments are required to work out appropriate modalities to ensure greater participation of the people of the border areas in the selection of the schemes.